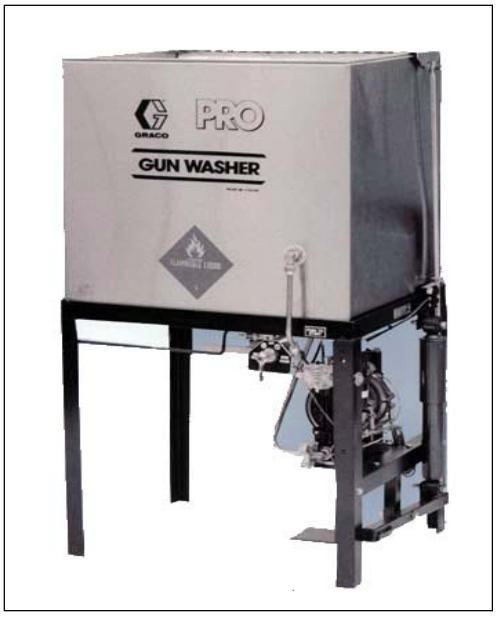
Navy Environmental Quality Fact Sheet

Do you clean paint guns manually?

Would you like to improve this process in the following areas?

- ***Meeting environmental compliance regulations*** -- Reduce hazardous waste disposal and air emissions. Regulatory areas include RCRA and VOC NAAQS.
- ***Improving workers' safety and health*** -- Reduce exposure to harmful solvents and paints.
- ***Increasing productivity*** -- Reduce time required for paint gun cleaning by 90%. Reduce amount of solvent required.
- ***Saving money*** -- Decrease operational costs, solvent purchases, paint rags consumed and solvent disposal.



Automatic paint gun washer equipment

After the application of paint is completed, paint guns are most often cleaned manually. This task is time consuming and exposes workers to harmful solvents and paints. An alternative to traditional methods is the automatic paint gun washer. Implementation of this technology will result in the generation of less solvent waste when compared to manual paint gun cleaning. Automatic paint gun washers are similar to conventional home dishwashing machines. A solvent is used to clean the inside and outside of the paint guns. Automatic paint gun washers filter and reuse solvent many times. The automatic paint gun washer solvent must be changed periodically and sludge must be disposed as a hazardous waste. The automatic paint gun washer is being used successfully at several Navy installations. ***This equipment is available through the Navy Pollution Prevention Equipment Program.***

How can you achieve these improvements?

Implement Automatic Paint Gun Washer Equipment.

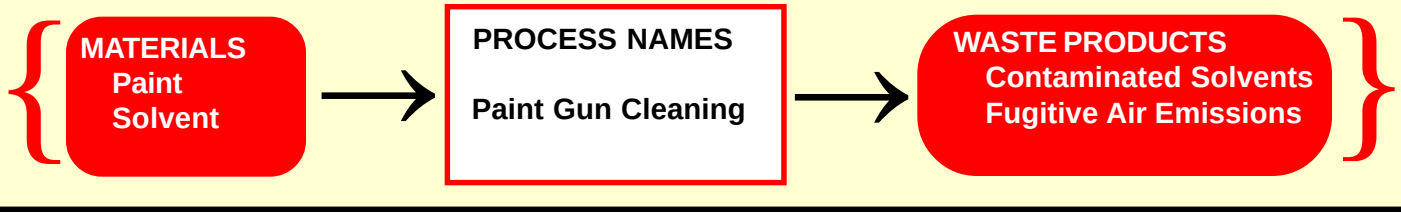
How does this equipment work?

The paint gun washer eliminates the need to clean paint guns manually. The paint gun washer automatically flushes the solvent through the spray gun hoses and paint pots. A filtering system removes the paint extending the solvent life.

How will this equipment save you money?

The paint gun washer dramatically reduces labor required to clean paint guns, as well as solvent procurement and disposal. The cost to implement varies from $1300 to $1600. The equipment pays for itself within a year.

Typical Process Flow Diagram



How can this technology eliminate or reduce pollution?

This technology can dramatically reduce the generation of waste solvents. Implementation will result in the following pollution reductions:

- Dramatic Reduction in the Use and Disposal of Solvent and Rags
- Dramatic Reduction of Air Emissions Related to Solvent Use

Which shops can benefit most from this technology?

This technology can be used in processes that use paint spray guns. Typical shops include:

- Automotive Painting
- Aircraft Painting
- Support Equipment Painting
- Facilities Painting

Take action: How can you implement this technology?

- **Activity Shop & Work Center Personnel**. If you work at an activity, contact your Pollution Prevention Program Manager. The P2 Program Manager can provide more information and conduct a more detailed analysis, and may be able to provide this equipment at no cost to a Shop or Work Center.
- **Activity Pollution Prevention Manager**. Request funding for this technology through the Navy P2 Equipment Program. Depending on the application, the Environmental Requirements Cookbook may contain project submission information for annual budget submissions to your major claimant.
- **For Additional Technical Information**. More information about this technology can be found in the Joint Service P2 Opportunity Handbook Datasheet No. 4-09 (Web: http://www.nfesc.navy.mil/) and the PPEP Equipment Book (Web: http://www.lakehurst.navy.mil/p2/index.htm).

Achieving Environmental Compliance Through Pollution Prevention

Everyday the Navy faces the challenge of operating and maintaining the fleet while complying with environmental regulations. This burden can be reduced by implementing pollution prevention technologies and methods to reduce compliance requirements. This Fact Sheet is one in a series designed to encourage activities to implement pollution prevention technologies and methods. The overall goal of this series is to promote sustained environmental compliance at the lowest life-cycle cost.

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